7/30/2003

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first sentence of the specification as follows:

This is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 10/003,640, filed November 2, 2001, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 09/698,527, filed October 27, 2000, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,462,169

PH 9/30/05

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please withdraw claims 1 – 17 from consideration.

Please add the following new claims 18 – 24:

18. A composite tubular cover or mantle for a stent comprising a polymeric matrix reinforced with monofilament cross-spirals, wherein at least one of the matrix and the reinforcement comprise an absorbable, crystalline, monocentric, polyaxial copolymer comprising:

a central atom selected from the group consisting of carbon and nitrogen; and

at least three axes originating and extending outwardly from the central atom, each axis comprising:

an amorphous, flexible component adjacent to and originating from the central atom, the amorphous component comprising repeat units derived from at least one cyclic monomer selected from the group consisting essentially of carbonates and lactones; and

a rigid, crystallizable component extending outwardly from the amorphous, flexible component, the crystallizable component comprising repeat units derived from at least one lactone;

wherein the copolymer comprises a melting temperature greater than 120°C, a heat of fusion greater than 10 J/g, and an endothermic transition at 40 - 100°C, wherein the endothermic transition can be controlled by subsequent heat treatment of the copolymer.

19. The composite tubular cover or mantle for a stent set forth in claim 1 wherein the subsequent heat treatment comprises orientation.

20. The composite tubular cover or mantle for a stent set forth in claim 1 wherein the subsequent heat treatment comprises annealing above 25°C.

21. The composite tubular cover or mantle for a stent set forth in claim 1 wherein the crystallizable component comprises repeat units derived from l-lactide.

22. The composite tubular cover or mantle for a stent set forth in claim 1 wherein the crystallizable component comprises repeat units derived from glycolide.

23. The composite tubular cover or mantle for a stent set forth in claim 21 wherein the crystallizable component comprises repeat units derived from a second monomer selected from the group consisting of trimethylene carbonate, caprolactone, p-dioxanone, and 1,5-dioxepan-2-one.

24. The composite tubular cover or mantle for a stent set forth in claim 22 wherein the crystallizable component comprises repeat units derived from a second monomer selected from the group consisting of trimethylene carbonate, caprolactone, p-dioxanone, and 1,5-dioxepan-2-one.